

GARY LOCKE
Governor



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Greetings from the Governor

January 15, 2003

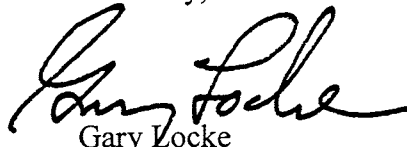
As governor of the state of Washington, I am delighted to welcome you to the celebration recognizing the Board of Education's passage of WAC 180-78A-700, which provides for certification of Native Language teachers. I am sorry I cannot join you for this historic celebration.

I am proud of this historic new development in the relationship between Washington State and the Tribes. This is a great achievement in our government-to-government relationship in the area of education. I believe it will help us achieve the common goal of preserving native languages and providing excellent instruction for all our children.

Our state is a unique blend of many cultures, languages, and traditions. As we strive to meet the challenges of the 21st century, we must all work together for a better understanding among individuals from different backgrounds. The citizens of the state of Washington owe a debt of gratitude to organizations like the First Peoples' Language/Culture Committee of Washington State that are committed to fostering an increased awareness and appreciation of the richness of our shared diversity.

Best wishes for a memorable event!

Sincerely,



Gary Locke
Governor

